

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (USPTO)

Serial Number	10/791,222
Confirmation Number	3945
Filing Date	03/01 2004
Title of Application	Design Time Validation of Systems
First Named Inventor	Geoffrey H. Outhred
Assignee	Microsoft Corporation
Group Art Unit	2153
Examiner	Kevin T. Bates
Attorney Docket Number	MS1-2019US
Nature of the Office Communication to which this is responding	Non-Final Office Action
Date of the Office Communication	02/03/2009
Nature of this Document	Statement of Substance of Interview

To: Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

From: Kasey C. Christie (Tel. 509-324-9256; Fax 509-323-8979)
Customer No. 22801

Statement of Substance of Interview

[0001] The Examiner graciously talked with me—the undersigned representative for the Applicant—on 02/03/2009. Applicant greatly appreciates the Examiner's willingness to talk. Such willingness is invaluable to both of us in our common goal of an expedited prosecution of this patent application.

[0002] During the interview, I discussed how the claims differed from the cited reference, namely Graupner. Without conceding the propriety of the rejections and in the interest of expediting prosecution, I also proposed several possible clarifying amendments.

[0003] The Examiner was receptive to the proposals, specifically the clarification regarding the §101 rejection. I understood the Examiner to tentatively concur with the proposed amendments to independent claims 1, 6, and 11. However, the Examiner indicated that he would need to review the cited art more carefully and do another search.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lee & Hayes, PLLC
Representatives for Applicant

/kaseychristie40559/ Dated: 2/3/2009
Kasey C. Christie (kasey@leehayes.com; x4732)
Registration No. 40559
Customer No. **22801**

Telephone: (509) 324-9256
Facsimile: (509) 323-8979
www.leehayes.com